

S.O. 21

I wish to take this opportunity to call upon the Government to accede to that request and to appoint a labour member to the Atomic Energy Control Board. While the Government is at it, it could consider appointing a wider variety of people to the Atomic Energy Control Board, people who represent energy consumers, environmental concerns and other interests and views which should be brought to bear upon decisions made about the future of nuclear energy in Canada.

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CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

REPORT ON CHARLOTTETOWN DRIVING PARK DENOUNCED

Mr. Mel Gass (Malpeque): Mr. Speaker, I would like to address a negative report which was aired on CBC's *The Journal* on October 14, 1986, regarding the Charlottetown Driving Park in Prince Edward Island.

The CDP is considered the heart of the harness racing industry in P.E.I. and has been referred to as the Kentucky of Canada on many occasions. The Charlottetown Driving Park has operated since the late 1800s, has one of the highest wager rates per capita in Canada, and is one of the few tracks making a profit. The CDP has turned out such greats as Rumpus Hanover, a pacer who holds the world record for two-year-old colts, and was home to Captain Jamie, who has a trotting record of 1.57.

The harness racing industry is a major contributor to tourism in P.E.I. Therefore, Prince Edward Islanders were angered and appalled when CBC reporter Tom Alderman chose to portray the CDP as a small-time track at which racehorses were of poor quality, no money could be made, and as a track which neither the public nor the harness racing industry should take seriously. Tom Alderman, the reporter for CBC, should not be taken seriously. This type of biased, negative reporting is disgusting and disgraceful.

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[Translation]

PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY

DRUGS—UNPROTECTED CONSUMERS—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Jean-Claude Malépart (Montreal—Sainte-Marie): Mr. Speaker, yesterday the Conservative Government tabled another Bill that puts an additional burden on senior citizens, low-income families and the sick.

Mr. Speaker, after imposing a 10 per cent tax on drugs and thus taxing illness in this country, just to reduce the deficit, that same Government has now decided to give in to blackmail by the multinationals, the excuse being that it will create jobs.

Mr. Speaker, pretty soon the Government will be praying for people to die in this country, to create more jobs in funeral homes.

Mr. Speaker, this Conservative Government has decided to lean on the poor. Today, 4,000 Canadians have no protection as far as drug costs are concerned, neither from Government or private plans, and these 4,000 Canadians are going to suffer as a result of the incompetence and injustice of the Conservative Government.

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EMPLOYMENT

GOVERNMENT'S PERFORMANCE

Mrs. Lise Bourgault (Argenteuil—Papineau): Mr. Speaker, my Government was elected in September 1984, because it promised Canadians jobs, jobs, and I want to take this opportunity to prove this was not an empty promise.

Mr. Speaker, in October the unemployment rate was 9.4 per cent, the lowest since March 1982. This means that since 1984, 610,000 jobs have been created in Canada, that we have 255,000 fewer unemployed in this country and that 339,000 more women are working today than was the case in September 1984.

Mr. Speaker, youth unemployment has gone down from 18.4 per cent to 14.9 per cent. Over 80 per cent of the jobs created are full time jobs.

In the Atlantic region, jobs are being created at a rate of 1,080 per month, twice the figure of 509 produced under the Liberals.

Since September 1984, 303,000 jobs have been created in Ontario and 5,760 jobs in Quebec—eight times as much as under the Liberals.

Mr. Speaker, that is a performance that is hard to beat.

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● (1110)

[English]

PORTS

PORT OF CHURCHILL—PERMANENT STAFF LAID OFF

Mr. Rod Murphy (Churchill): Mr. Speaker, it is apparent from the Government's recent action that it has no intention at this time of making a commitment to the support of the Port of Churchill. The Government stalled for months before making public yesterday the results of four independent studies which looked at the viability of the port. As has now become known, these studies have shown that the port can be made viable.